

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 L-01

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED DCM/POLITICAL COUNSELORS' CONFERENCE

REF: (A) USNATO 4017 DTG 311220Z JULY 75

(B) USNATO 4281 DTG 111223Z AUG 75

1. AS END-OCTOBER DATE PROJECTED REF B FOR TENTATIVE DCM/
POLITICALCOUNCELORS' MEETING DRAWS CLOSER, WE HAVE RECEIVED ADDITIONAL

QUERIES FROM PROSPECTIVE INVITEES CONCERNING PLANS. FAVORABLE
INITIAL RESPONSE FROM FIELD ADDRESSEES REFLECTED STRONG INTEREST
IN SUCH A MEETING THIS AUTUMN. WE WOULD APPRECIATE, THERFORE, THE
DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE PROPOSED GATHERING SO THAT WE CAN
INFORM PROSPECTIVE INVITEES ACCORDINGLY.

2. WHILE AWARE THAT FUNDING MAY BE AT ISSUE, VIRTUALLY ALL POSTS
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE RESPONDED THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO PAY
TRAVEL AND OTHER PARTICIPATION COSTS FROM POST FUNDS. HENCE, ONLY
COSTS ACCRUING DIRECTLY TO DEPARTMENT WOULD BE FOR WASHINGTON
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PARTICIPANTS WHOM WE WOULD WELCOME.

3. WE THINK REASONS FOR HOLDING MEETING THIS YEAR REMAIN VALID.
MOST OF DCMS AND POLITICAL COUNSELORS WHO ATTENDED THE LAST

CONFERENCE IN 1972 HAVE BEEN REASSIGNED ELSEWHERE.
MOREOVER, MANY OF THEIR REPLACEMENTS MAY HAVE HAD LITTLE
PROFESSIONAL EXPOSURE TO NATO AND EC AFFAIRS.

4. WHILE PROPOSED MEETING MIGHT POSSIBLY COMPETE WITH OTHER
PLANNED EVENTS FOR AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FOR COMMITMENT OF
DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL, MISSION BELIEVES THAT US POLITICAL/
MILITARY AND POLITICAL/ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN EUROPE COULD BE
USEFULLY REVIEWED IN SUCH A GATHERING AT THIS TIME, AS THE
EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC AND GOVERNMENTAL "SEASON" REACHES FULL
STRIDE AFTER THE NATO AND CSCE SUMMITS AND THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

5. WE ACCORDINGLY HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT CAN AGREE TO PROPOSED
MEETINGS AND THAT STATE AND DEFENSE WILL BE REPRESENTED AT
APPROPRIATE LEVELS (E.G., AT LEAST DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARIES).

6. IF AUTUMN DATES ARE NOT FEASIBLE, WE WOULD WELCOME
DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON HOLDING THE MEETING IN THE SPRING OF
1976.

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